

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ASMARA 00901 241345Z

60

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SY-05 SCCT-01 USSS-00 OPR-02

CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 OC-05 CCO-00

A-01 /085 W

----- 123411

R 241300Z OCT 75

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3654

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

COMNAVTELCOM WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

COMIDEASTFOR

NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA

NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI

CNO WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0901

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS ET

SUBJECT: SITUATION IN ASMARA IN WAKE OF BRITISH CONSUL'S KIDNAPPING

REF: ASMARA 0895 (DTG 231320Z OCT 75) AND PREVIOUS

1. ABDUCTED BRITISH HONORARY CONSUL BURWOOD-TAYLOR'S SECRETARY HAS INFORMED CONGEN THAT NINE GELLATLY HANKEY EMPLOYEES STILL DETAINED BY POLICE FOR QUESTIONING AFTER OCT. 23 KIDNAPPING, INCLUDING BRITISH PRO-CONSUL TIQUABO ARESSI. WITH ARRIVAL OF BRITISH CONSUL E.M. "BILL" SMITH IN ASMARA SATURDAY MORNING, IT IS EXPECTED THAT STEPS WILL BE TAKEN TO TRY TO SECURE THEIR RELEASE. ONLY INDICATION OF HEIGHTENING EPMG
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SECURITY FORCES ACTIVITY AS RESULT OF KIDNAPPING IS PRESENCE

IN ASMARA OF TRUCKLOADS OF ETHIOPIAN TROOPS DRIVING
OSTENTATIOUSLY THROUGH STREETS THURSDAY AFTERNOON AND
FRIDAY MORNING.

2. LATE THURSDAY AFTERNOON SHOOTING REPORTEDLY BROKE OUT
IN 35TH ARMY BN COMPOUND IN SE SECTION OF ASMARA. AS
EXTENSION OF PERSONAL DISPUTE BETWEEN SEVERAL BN MEMBERS,
THERE WAS SCATTERED FIRING IN THE COMPOUND AND REPORTEDLY
SEVERAL CASUALTIES, INCLUDING ONE DEATH. BY NIGHTFALL, THIS
FIRING APPARENTLY TOUCHED OFF REACTION FROM TENSE EPMG GUARDS
AT VARIOUS FACILITIES THROUGHOUT ASMARA. FIRING APPEARS
TO HAVE BEEN LIGHT, SPORADIC AND OUTGOING ONLY.
SHERRY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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